



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Assembly Bill 842

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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2001 Assembly Bill 842 (AB 842) is a legislative redistricting plan, based on the results of the 2000 U.S. Census. The bill maintains the number of Assembly districts at 99 and Senate districts at 33. All of the Assembly districts created in the bill are bounded by county, town or ward boundaries. Also, in accordance with the state constitution, no Assembly district is divided in the creation of a Senate district. Under the bill, county and municipal boundaries and wards used to create legislative districts are the boundaries and wards that were in effect on August 1, 2001. The boundaries do not account for any municipal annexation, detachment or consolidation after that date.

AB 842 requires the Legislative Reference Bureau, in enrolling any redistricting plan that has passed both houses of the Legislature, to attach an updated appendix that includes specified information about the plan, including the population statistics for the legislative districts created and various maps.

Under current law, legislative districts must be substantially equal in population. Based on the state's 2000 Census population, the ideal Assembly district will have 54,179 inhabitants, and the ideal Senate district will have 162,536.

Under AB 842, the smallest Assembly district has 536 fewer persons than ideal, while the largest has 542 more persons than ideal. The smallest Senate district has 821 fewer persons than ideal, while the largest has 969 more persons than ideal. For the Assembly, the overall range in deviation is $\pm 1,078$ persons or $\pm 1.99\%$. For the Senate, the overall range in deviation is $\pm 1,790$ persons or $\pm 1.10\%$.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 (ASA 1) shifts some population in the bill's proposed Milwaukee area legislative districts, which in turn necessitates some shifts in other districts around the state. As a result of these Milwaukee area shifts, the Hispanic population in the proposed 7th Assembly District is decreased from 19,762 in the bill to 16,616 in ASA 1. In the proposed 8th Assembly District, the Hispanic population is increased from 30,509 to 33,867. In the proposed 9th Assembly District, the Hispanic population is decreased from 3,450 to 3,391.

ASA 1 maintains the bill's overall range in deviation of $\pm 1,078$ persons or ± 1.99 % for Assembly districts and has an overall range in deviation for Senate districts of $\pm 1,819$ persons or ± 1.12 %.

The Assembly Committee on Census and Redistricting recommended passage of AB 842, in its original form, on February 27, 2002. ASA 1 was introduced by Representative Walker and adopted on a voice vote by the Assembly on March 7, 2002. The Assembly then passed AB 842, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 53; Noes, 44; and Paired, 2. The bill was immediately messaged to the Senate and referred to the Senate Organization Committee.

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